

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/792,153

Applicant(s)

ECCLES, ROBERT E.

Examiner

Art Unit

Phallaka Kik

2825

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment and ADS filed on 6/26/2006, and interview conducted on 8/4/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 20060804.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other See Continuation Sheet.

Continuation of Attachment(s) 9. Other: 1 sheet containing page 2 of amendment filed on 6/26/06.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Office Action responds to Applicant's amendment and ADS filed on 6/26/2006, and interview conducted on 8/4/2006. Claims 1-31 are pending, wherein claims 1,5,11,13,16,18-20,25-28,30 have been amended. Claims 1-31 have been examined and are allowed, wherein claim 18 is subjected to the following Examiner's Amendment.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Keith A. Kanroo (Reg. No. 36,480) on 8/4/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### **In the specification:**

"found at <http://www.ee.eng.hawaii.edu/~smtih/ASICs/HTML/Verilog/Verilog.htm>," (page 2 of amendment filed on 6/26/2006) has been deleted to remove the hyperlink, as shown in the attached sheet.

#### **In the claims:**

As per **claim 18**, "signal-bearing" has been replaced with --computer readable--.

***Priority***

3. Acknowledgement is made of the Application Data Sheet filed on 6/26/2006, which properly corrects the claimed provisional application number. Accordingly, the benefits of the earlier filing date of the provisional application number 60/452,143 has been granted.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. **Claims 1-31** are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per **claims 1-24**, Applicant's amendment and arguments filed on 6/26/2006 set forth the patentability of Applicant's claimed invention, wherein as pointed out by Applicant, the prior arts made of record failed to teach or suggest the inventive steps/means comprising the equivalence checking being for equivalence of circuit abstractions of the configured circuits (or design or design abstraction) and the at least one test pattern (or the plurality of individual circuits or test patterns or test case design) as claimed, as part of the method/apparatus/computer readable medium/system for checking/testing whether a programmable logic device functions properly when configured/programmed, as claimed (see applicant's amendment filed on 6/26/2006, pages 11-14). Other prior arts made of record similarly failed to teach or suggest the inventive steps/means as claimed. Accordingly, the claimed invention is novel and unobvious over the prior arts made of record.

As per **claims 25-31**, the Office Action mailed on 4/5/2006 sets forth the patentability of Applicant's claimed invention, wherein as previously indicated, the prior arts made of record failed to teach or suggest the inventive steps of renaming the cell of

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the logic block, in combination with the steps of filtering, translating, and parsing as claimed, as part of the method of checking whether a programmable logic device functions properly when configured, as claimed. Furthermore, Applicant's amendment filed on 6/26/2006 removes all of the minor informalities noted. Accordingly, the claimed invention is novel and un-obvious over the prior arts made of record and becomes allowable.

### ***Conclusion***

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phallaka Kik whose telephone number is 571-272-1895. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 8:30AM-7PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Chiang can be reached on 571-272-7483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**or faxed to:**

571-273-8300



Phallaka Kik  
Primary Examiner  
August 4, 2006